

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Maertens et al

Atty. Ref.: 2752-31

Serial No. 08/836,075

Group: 1643

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Examiner: Zeman

For: **NEW SEQUENCES OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS
GENOTYPES AND THEIR USE AS PROPHYLACTIC,
THERAPEUTIC AND DIAGNOSTIC AGENTS****COPY**#331N
Plunkett
3/19/02

July 9, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

Entry and consideration of the following amendments and remarks are requested.

IN THE CLAIMS

Amend the claims as follows:

Cancel claims 63-74, without prejudice.

Add the following claims:

H1 Sub 1

-75. (new) A Hepatitis C virus polynucleic acid, having a nucleotide sequence which is unique to at least one of the new HCV types 7, 9 or 11, or, to at least one of the subtypes id, ie, if, 1g, 2e, 2f, 2g, 2h, 2i, 2k, 2l, 3g, 4k, 4l or 4m, wherein when the sequence is unique to at least subtype id the sequence is at least 96% identical to SEQ ID NO: 1; or the complement thereof.